



HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President - P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske	VE3JQ
Ray Forslund	VE3EDZ
Ray Greer	VE3CH
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Bill Klemacki	VE3AJ
Bill Roberts	VE3ARN

LARC EXECUTIVE 2001-2002

President:	Bob Hansen	VE3RVA 767-6924
Vice-Pres:	Mark Vaillant	VA3MVR 935-2205
Secretary:	Judy Artist	VA3EAP 345-2218
Treasurer:	Jan Sokoloski	VA3JRS 344-3222
Directors:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW 622-1216
	Fred Lesnick	VE3FAL 577-0789
	Denise Magill	VA3NST 346-4614
	Andy Malcolm	VE3INI 345-1858
Past Pres:	Skip Wright	VE3BBS

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	MOUNT BALDY	147.06	(-600) FP
VE3TBR	ST. JOSEPH'S	146.820	(-600) FP
VE3BGA	HILLCREST H.S.	147.390	(+600)
VE3UPP	UPSALA ONT.	145.470	(-600) FP
(linked to VE3YQT)			

PREZ SEZ.....

It sure was nice to see the large turnout of members at the May 9 meeting. Thanks to Fred VE3FAL for his excellent talk on contesting and logging radio contacts. I neglected to show the members the plaque presented to us by the Sibley Ski Tour thanking us for 25 years on continuous support. It will be on display at the next meeting.

This year's Field Day site has been changed to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority site at the corner of Oliver and Golf Links Roads intersection. Obtain more information on Field Day at our next meeting.

We have one of our newer members, Brad, VA3MXJ, working along with our CanWarn coordinator, John, VA3JMS. Our June meeting will be held in a new location – Shuniah Building, second floor, Room C242 on June 13. The LARC is only as strong as its membership. Looking forward to seeing you at the next LARC meeting – the final one for the season.

Your President
Bob VE3RVA

ARLB026 West Virginia Amateurs help state deal with flooding

Amateurs in West Virginia continue to assist in the wake of recent flooding. The state has recorded nine deaths since severe thunderstorms May 2 dumped more than five inches of rain over the southern West Virginia coalfields within a few hours. ARRL West Virginia Section Emergency Coordinator Mac McMillian, W8XF, says several roads in the hardest-hit region in and around Welch and Webster counties remain closed due to flood damage, and "uncounted" families have been forced from their homes. Schools in McDowell County remain closed. Gov Bob Wise has declared a state of emergency in several counties.

"Amateur Radio involvement has been done locally on battery-powered repeaters in the affected areas." McMillian said this week. Amateurs from the Charleston area volunteered to assist in Welch County. McMillian said amateurs were able to handle a request from the state Emergency Operations Center to provide back-up communication from Welch to the state EOC in Charleston when a coal mine impound dam threatened to burst. The impound was pumped down to safe levels before that could happen, however.

Raleigh County Emergency Coordinator Tim Zutaut, KC8PMI, said this week that Raleigh County ARES/RACES was monitoring the Welch 145.45 MHz repeater. A McDowell County ARES group has been using the repeater to assist with communications into and out of the county, he said. "Our group is set up at the Red Cross to assist them with any traffic and needs they may have," he told McMillian. "From the reports I have received, the damage there [McDowell County] is very extensive." McMillian said the McDowell County 911 center was flooded, and more than two-thirds of the telephones in the affected area were not functional in the immediate aftermath of the flooding. Some cellular telephone sites have remained operational, however.

In Virginia, flooding in Buchanan County affected more than 2500 residents and caused damage estimated at \$30 million. Two people drowned in the community of Hurley. Flooding also affected Pike County, Kentucky, and one person drowned in that state.

ARLB027 New Mexico amateurs support fire response

Amateur Radio Emergency Service/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service members this week assisted the American Red Cross in New Mexico following evacuations prompted by yet another wildfire. The latest fire emergency came about as tinder-dry conditions continue to keep New Mexico ARES/RACES members busy. A dozen or so air tankers were ordered to battle the most recent fire near Pecos--the so-called Dalton Fire in the Santa Fe National Forest. More than 100 residents were evacuated in the Dalton Canyon and Pecos Canyon areas.

"The fire hazard remains high throughout virtually all of New Mexico so there is no doubt that ARES/RACES teams will be called ou again--the only question is, when?" said New Mexico Section Emergency Coordinator Bill Kauffman, W5YEJ. Kauffman said the US Forest Service now estimates the so-called Dalton Fire is 70 percent contained. "This fire, which is believed to have been intentionally started, was hit hard with slurry bombers and hot shot ground teams," Kauffman said. As the fire emergency escalated earlier this week, Kauffman said hams quickly set up at a Red Cross shelter and other facilities near Pecos. The New Mexico State Emergency Operations Center in Santa Fe was not activated, but EOC personnel had asked ARES/RACES to be ready if needed.

On May 2, ARES/RACES activated an HF net at the request of the state EOC to provide possible communication support with Otero County EOC in response to the so-called Penasco Fire. That blaze near Mayhill, was expected to be 100 percent contained by mid-week after burning more than 15,000 acres. Most residents of the James Canyon have been allowed to return to their homes after being evacuated earlier last week. The Penasco Fire destroyed more than a dozen homes and more than two dozen other structures. About 15 families were reported in Red Cross shelters as of the end of last week. More than 1500 firefighters have been involved in fighting the Penasco fire.

Kauffman said Forest Service supervisors have been discussing closing all or parts of the Cibola and Santa Fe National Forests, and the City of Albuquerque is considering closing the area along both sides of the Rio Grande as it runs through the city, known as the Bosque. The New Mexico statewide emergency frequencies are 7233 kHz days and 3939 kHz nights (plus or minus adjacent QRM). ARRL New Mexico Section Manager Joe Knight says the situation "could change at any time." Little or no rain has fallen in New Mexico in recent weeks, he said, noting that Albuquerque got just 0.04 inches of rain in April. The lack of rainfall, combined with extremely low humidity, led to the critical fire situation in New Mexico, which is now at Level III. Knight said hams in New Mexico remained on alert to render possible aid to neighboring Arizona, where another 12,000 acre fire was raging.

In Colorado, Jeff Ryan, K0RM, reports that El Paso County RACES supported firefighters during the April 28 Black Forest fire, northeast of Colorado Springs. Several homes were evacuated. A dozen RACES operators provided continuous detailed weather data to the fire team command post until the fire was brought under control. No one was injured, and no structures were damaged as a result of this fire Ryan said.

ARLB028 FCC proposes two new amateur bands!

Good news for ham radio this week! FCC has proposed going along with ARRL's request for a new domestic (*US-only*), secondary HF allocation at 5.25 to 5.4 MHz. The FCC also is ready to permit operation on a 136-kHz "sliver band" in the low-frequency (LF) region. And, in response to a third ARRL request, the FCC has proposed elevating Amateur Radio to primary status at 2400 to 2402 MHz. "I'm just as tickled as I can be," ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said upon hearing the news. "This is a classic example of our ARRL at work." The FCC voted unanimously May 2 to adopt the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in ET Docket 02-98. The Commission released a Public Notice May 9, and the NPRM is expected to be released soon. A comment deadline will be announced as soon as it's available.

The FCC said the new 5-MHz band would help amateurs "better match their choice of frequency to existing propagation conditions." The band, if approved, would be the first new amateur HF allocation since World Administrative Radio Conference 1979 gave amateurs 30, 17 and 12 meters--the so-called "WARC Bands." Assuming the 5-MHz band eventually is authorized, it could be a few years before it actually becomes available.

The League said its successful WA2XSY experiments demonstrated that amateurs can coexist with current users and that the band is very suitable for US-to-Caribbean paths. In comparisons with 80 and 40 meters, the WA2XSY operation also showed the 60-meter band to be the most reliable of the three. The ARRL also argued that a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz could relieve periodic overcrowding on 80 and 40.

If allocated to amateurs on a secondary basis, hams would have to avoid interfering with--and accept interference from--current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters. The band 5.250 to 5.450 MHz now is allocated to Fixed and Mobile services on a co-primary basis in all three ITU regions.

The ARRL asked the FCC for two LF allocations in October 1998--135.7 to 137.8 kHz and 160 to 190 kHz. The FCC said its action on one part of that LF request proposes changes that would enhance the ability of amateur radio operators to conduct technical experiments, including propagation and antenna design experiments, in the 'low frequency' (LF) range of the radio spectrum." Several countries in Europe and elsewhere already have 136-kHz amateur allocations. The first amateur transatlantic contact on the band was recorded in February 2001.

Hams would be secondary to the Fixed and Maritime Mobile services in the 136-kHz allocation. The League said its engineering surveys suggest that hams could operate without causing problems to power line carrier (PLC) systems already active in that vicinity or to government assignments. Unallocated Part 15 PLC systems are used by electric utilities to send control signals, data and voice. The FCC said its proposal to upgrade the Amateur Service allocation at 2400 to 2402 MHz to primary "seeks to protect current amateur use of this band." Hams have shared their other 2.4 GHz spectrum on a secondary basis with government users.

Amateurs already are primary at 2390 to 2400 and from 2402 to 2417 MHz. The ARRL has said primary status in the intervening spectrum slice was needed "to provide some assurances of future occupancy of the band segments for the next generation of amateur satellites." The ARRL has expressed its belief that hams can continue to accommodate Part 15 and Part 18 devices at 2.4 GHz.

AMATEUR RADIO ITEMS FOR SALE (via email from Bob VA3ROM)

MFJ-931 Artificial Ground with instructions. Provides a proper RF ground for tuned counterpoises, vertical antennas. Tunes out reactance on your ground so that it is not resonant on your working frequency. Asking \$60.00.

Kenwood HF Transceiver Model TS570D. In excellent condition, low hours of use. Has internal antenna tuner, DSP capabilities, internal keyer, digital dials and display. Comes with mic & manuals, etc. Asking \$1250.00.

MFJ-962C 1.5 kW Versa Tuner III, 160-10m with instruction sheet. This is for those people who like to run the legal limit. Will also work for those who run 100 watts as well. Asking \$275.00.

MFJ-969 300W Versa Tuner II 160-6m. For those who need a 6 metre tuner this one does a nice job. With roller inductor for precise tuning. Asking \$175.00.

Astron RS-35M power supply. Rated at 13.8v DC @ 35 amps. Comes with Kenwood power cord. Asking \$280.00

If interested in any of the items, please contact Stephen, **VE3DP**, in Thunder Bay, at phone 807-345-6160 to discuss the purchase or viewing of these items.

Don't miss a single copy of HI-Q. Send your change of address notice to the Club.

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

On Air Events Reminder (From RAC)

May

24-27 Major 6 Club Contest

25-26 CQ WW WPX Contest, CW

26 QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint

27-28 MI QRP Memorial Day CW

May 18 to July 18, 2002 At the request of Mr. David Goodwin VE2ZP, Authority has been granted by Industry Canada to use National Special Event Call Signs for the celebration of The Queen's Golden Jubilee.

The call signs assigned to the special event will be:

XM1 for VE1's, XL1 for VA1's, XM2 for VE2's, XL2 for VA2's, XM3 for VE3's, XL3 for VA3's, XM4 for VE4's, XL4 for VA4's, XM5 for VE5's, XL5 for VA5's, XM6 for VE6's, XL6 for VA6's, XM7 for VE7's, XL7 for VA7's, XM8 for VE8's, XM9 for VE9's, XN1 for VO1's, XN2 for VO2's, XO0 for VY0's, XO0 for VY1's, and XO2 for VY2's.

This authority is valid from May 18, to July 18, 2002.

May 1 to May 31, 2002

Special event callsign VC6X has been assigned to Mr. Bill Metcalfe (VE6BF) from May 1 to May 31, 2002 for the 100th anniversary of Ernest Rutherford's discovery of smaller particles than atoms.

Down Memory Lane

June 1967.....Editor Bill **VE3EEW** (now **VE3AJ**); VE3ZCD. President Doc **VE3FSE** turned over HW12A to club for its own use along with power supply donated by **VE3EEW**. **VE3EDZ** was first and **VE3EFV** second in the club's 75-meter hidden transmitter hunt taking almost three hours to locate the transmitter atop the parking lot structure at the Canadian Inn (???). June dinner meeting cancelled due to a lack of interest. Elections were to be held at the June meeting. **ZA1LT** was appearing on 20 meters from the hot DX country of Albania. The phone net on 75 meters meets at 6:16 PM. **VE3EEW** was railing against the use of high power on HF when much lower power would get through. Skip **VE3BBS** was a new call sign appearing in Fort William. Five operating positions were to be on the air from 3C2XPO in Montreal. Helicopter Canada will feature special amateur call sign **3C7CCP** with special QSL's to confirm QSO's. LARC and Lakehead SAR to be at Nolalu Fish Derby to demonstrate their combined capabilities. Finally, the June FD site was to be the Army training area 0.4 miles east of Kakabeka Falls on Highway 590.73 de dave **VE3AVS**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
held in Room 191, Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario
May 9, 2002**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by the President VE3RVA, Bob Hansen with 30 members and guests in attendance. The meeting started with a roundtable of members and guests introducing themselves.

Minutes of the Meeting held on April 11, 2002: The minutes of meeting held on April 11, 2002 were published in detail in the May issue of AHi-Q@ and distributed to all members.

Motion: Moved by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki and seconded by VA3LU, Terry Stewardson that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

Correspondence: Canwarn Report 2001 from VA3JMS, John Sacek; letter from John Garland, Director, Organizing Committee, Shoppers Drug Mart 10 Mile Road Race asking for our assistance; thank you note from O.P.P. Christmas Parade Committee.

Treasurers Report: VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski

(Last month ending balance was reported at \$4362.82. This is incorrect and should read \$4372.82.

Balance as of March 31, 2002		\$ 4,372.82
Income:		
50/50	11.00	
Bank Interest	.03	
Class fee	25.00	
Membership		
Dues	<u>35.00</u>	<u>71.03</u>
Expenses:		
Annual Dinner	722.97	
Class fees	142.44	
Hi-Q	45.50	
Telephone	46.40	
Bank Charges	<u>1.00</u>	<u>958.31</u>
Balance as of April 30, 2002		\$ 3,485.54

Motion: Moved by VA3LU, Terry Stewardson and seconded by VE3DWP, Dan Darling that the Treasurers Report be accepted. **Carried.**

Committee Reports:

Equipment: VA3LU, Terry Stewardson reported that the phone patch is down again but hopefully will be repaired soon. Everything else - working fine.

QRP Club: VE3FAL, Fred Lesnick reported on the meeting held last week of the QRPClub. He said there was a good turnout of approx. 10 people. A few members travelled to Duluth to attend a QRP meeting there and a good time was had by all.

Classes: VE3SNW, Ed Baumann reported classes are over with 3 students writing and passing the test. There are more to come. Thanks Ed.

Field Day: VA3MVR, Mark Vaillant sends his regrets that Field Day cannot be held out at his place. VE3RVA, Bob Hansen is looking into the possibilities of holding Field Day at Hazelwood Lake or at Lakehead Regional Conservation Authority (Oliver Road).

RAC Ontario North: No report.

Public Service: The Salvation Army Appeal was turned down because of lack of interest. Norm has set up volunteers for the Shoppers Drug Mart 10 Mile Road Race to be held on Monday, May 20. Up-coming events - Triathlon and In-Line Skate - information made available at a later date.

Canwarn: VA3JMS, John Sacek reported that Wayne Whittaker is moving. Last Canwarn training will be held May 30th, Room 191, McIntyre Building, Confederation College.

Old Business: February 22nd, 2003 is the date for our Annual Dinner Meeting - Slovak Legion

New Business: VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki (officially) closed antenna season with a resounding Ahonk - honk@ from his trusty horn.

VE3RVA, Bob Hansen reported the following people will not be running for office or duties next year - VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski - Treasurer

VA3EAP, Judy Artist - Secretary

VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton- editor of Hi-Q (will resign following the December issue)

VE3ICY, Glen Wallace has offered to take over editing Hi-Q effective January 2003

Bob stated that he is willing to let his name stand again for President of LARC.

50/50 Draw: The 50/50 draw was won by VA3NST, Denise MacGill.

(Next Months meeting to be held in Shuniah Building, Room C242, June 13th)

Adjournment: Moved by VA3LU, Terry Stewardson that the meeting be adjourned.

Guest Speaker: VE3FAL, Fred Lesnick gave a very interesting presentation on Amateur Radio Contests. Why Contests? - for FUN, the challenge, the thrill of the chase, better your score from year to year, (and did we mention FUN?), that's why !!!

Fred handed out Entry Forms and Log Sheets so we could all participate in a 10 minute Mini Sprint, just for practice, and just for the FUN of it. Thanks Fred.



**WEDNESDAY MAY 15TH – TIME HORTON CAMP DAY FOR KIDS
AT MEMORIAL AVENUE LOCATION – “BINDER” VE3WVW ON THE JOB!!!**

(Photo courtesy Pat VE3PP)

Trip to ARACS Swapfest May 4, 2002-05-26

The day started at about 0430 hours for **VA3WRL**, **VE3WCW**, **VE3TLL** and **VE3FAL**. We were off to Duluth/Superior for a day trip to take in the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club swapfest at the fairgrounds in Superior, WI. We went through the usual questioning at the border, and continued on our way down Route 61. Not too far behind were **VE3BHN**, **VE3BCD** and **VA3RCR**. **VE3AXL** and **VE3XT** went down Friday and stayed overnight at Barkers Island.

We saw the usual wildlife on the drive down – moose, deer and rabbit. After a brief stop in Grand Marais for breakfast we continued on our way. We arrived at the fairgrounds just before the 1400Z opening. We lined up inside the building, and saw the tables all laid out with goodies for the bargain hunters. There were many displays – MN QRP Club, Minnesota Wireless Association, ARRL, MARS and Burghaardts. Lots of deals to be had for the newbie to HF; some nice rigs and other toys as well.

Then we met up with **VE3RVA** who was also down to see what the swapfest had to offer. At 1730Z we packed up, headed to car in the rain and drove down to Rich's Café, where we met up with the MN QRP gang to have lunch and a chin wag. Those from the MN group were **W0UFO**-Mert, **K0PC**-Pat, **KA0GKC**-Clay, and **KA0JWH/CJ3**-Stan, who was wearing his CJ 97 Tshirt and jacket.

After lunch, we headed up to Miller Hill Mall, looked around a bit then decided it as time to motor back home. We had a great day, and it was great to put faces to the callsigns from the Minnesota gang that I worked during the winter fox hunts on 40 meters.

Fred **VE3FAL**

THIS'N THAT.....

A new record set? Eight hams squished around a table designed to hold four at Horton's Memorial location on April 29, welcoming visitor Brian Nicholls, **G0TTU/VE3UKX**. The group included **VE3's** **SNW**, **DWP**, **XRC**, **AVS**, **WCW** and **VA3's** **BNO** and **WRL**.

And those "Holy Rollers" are at it again at Grandview Arena Sunday nights.....April 28th saw **VE3's** **XLB**, **XRC** and **AVS** along with **VA3's** **EAP** and **MOB** ringing in the roller skating/blading season.

FLASH NEWS FROM VE3SNW.....

Congratulations to **Kevin Sidlar**, **Nick Pucci**, **Richard Curtis**, **Jonathen Janeway** and **Tyson Boer** for successfully completing their amateur radio examinations. Also congratulations and thanks to Ed **VE3SNW** their instructor!